

Message Text

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62

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 MC-02 /086 W

----- 045102

R 101145Z NOV 76

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0459

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0682

CAIRO FOR USDAO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EG

SUBJECT: SOVIET AIRCRAFT "SALESMAN"

1. FROM ROLLS ROYCE TECHNICIAN (BRITISH SUBJECT) IN ALEXANDRIA
IN CONNECTION WITH AFTER SALES AND TRAINING PROGRAM ON NEW
HELICOPTERS BEING SUPPLIED TO EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE, CONGEN HEARD
FOLLOWING:

A. DURING WEEK OF NOVEMBER 1-5, SOURCE WAS IN BASE COMMANDANT'S
OFFICE AT DIKHEILA AIR BASE WHERE HELICOPTER TRAINING AND
MAINTENANCE FUNCTION IS LOCATED. A EUROPEAN LOOKING CIVILIAN
ENTERED, APPARENTLY QUITE AT HOME IN SURROUNDINGS. IN GOOD
AMERICAN-ACCENTED ENGLISH HE INTRODUCED HIMSELF (NAME NOT RECALLED)
AND THEN ASKED SOME GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT SOURCE'S PRESENCE
AND WORK.

B. BASE COMMANDANT HAD APPEARED FLUSTERED AT CIVILIAN'S ARRIVAL.
HE INTERVENED IN CONVERSATION AND HURRIED VISITOR FROM ROOM.

C. UPON HIS RETURN ABOUT FIVE MINUTES LATER, COMMANDANT WARNED
SOURCE IN NERVOUS MANNER THAT HE MUST NOT RPT NOT DISCUSS HIS
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WORK OR BRITISH HELICOPTERS IN FRONT OF VISITOR JUST DEPARTED.

COMMANDANT SAID MAN WAS "A RUSSIAN AIRCRAFT SALESMAN" (AS SOURCE RECALLS IT).

2. CONGEN EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE THAT SOVIET UNION WOULD EMPLOY "SALESMAN" FOR AIRCRAFT THAT, IN CIRCUMSTANCES, WOULD INVOLVE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT OR SERVICE-TO-SERVICE TRANSACTIONS. SOURCE AGREED MAN MAY HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO AS "AIRCRAFT COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE", BUT NOTED THIS WAS ONLY RUSSIAN HE HAD SEEN AT DIKHEILA IN ALL HIS MONTHS HERE.
CHASE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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